

TRANSITIONAL REVIEW MECHANISM¹

Communication from China

The following communication, dated 18 October 2009, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the People's Republic of China.

Information Required by Annex 1A of the Protocol
on the Accession of China

IV. POLICIES AFFECTING TRADE IN GOODS

3. Import licensing

(a) Implementation of the provisions of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures and the WTO Agreement applying the measures set out in Section 8 of the Protocol including provision of the time taken to grant an import licence

China has honoured all the accession commitments regarding import licensing since accession into the WTO 8 years ago. The present import licensing procedures maintained by China, i.e. import license administration, automatic import licensing and tariff rate quota administration, are consistent with WTO rules.

Since the last transitional review in 2008, no major change has occurred to the import licensing regime of China. On 10 October 2008, the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) and the General Administration of Customs (GAC) jointly promulgated the Catalogue of Goods Subject to Automatic Import Licensing of 2009 in MOFCOM and GAC Joint Announcement No.103 of 2008.

On 10 October 2008, the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), the General Administration of Customs (GAC) and the Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) jointly promulgated the Catalogue of Goods Subject to Import License Administration of 2009 in MOFCOM, GAC and AQSIQ Joint Announcement No.99 of 2008. These two catalogues list all the products subject to import licensing procedures except for those under Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) administration.

As for products subject to TRQ administration, there has been no change to the administration methods since last year.

¹ Pursuant to Paragraph 18 of the Protocol on the Accession of the People's Republic of China (WT/L/432).

Hereinbefore, the context gives a brief description of import licensing procedures of China in 2009. All the administrative rules mentioned above can be found in *China Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Gazette* and can also be obtained at the website of MOFCOM (WWW.MOFCOM.GOV.CN). In addition to the notification on the reply to the annual questionnaire pursuant to Article 7.3 of *the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures*, we will update the notification regarding laws, regulations and rules of China's import licensing procedures pursuant to the notification obligations under *the Agreement*.
